

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A system for treating a tissue area of a patient with light, wherein the tissue area includes a plurality of sub-areas having different levels of melanin in the different sub-areas, the system comprising:

a plurality of light emitting devices optically coupled with the tissue area;

wherein the plurality of light emitting devices, are configured into different regions of light emitting devices, and wherein the different regions of light emitting devices correspond to the different sub-areas having different levels of melanin;

a driver circuit electrically coupled with the plurality of light emitting devices such that the driver circuit can drive the light emitting devices to output light treatment to the tissue, wherein the driver circuit drives the plurality of regions to output different intensities of light treatment to the different sub-areas; and

a controller coupled to the driver circuit which controls the driver circuit to drive the different regions of light emitting devices to output different intensities of light treatment to the different sub-areas of the patient's tissue, wherein the controller operates to control the driver circuit to drive the different regions to output different intensities of light treatment to different sub-areas based on the different levels of melanin in the different sub-areas.

2. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the controller operates to cause the driver circuit to drive a first region of light emitting devices, which corresponds to a first sub-area of tissue having a low melanin content, to output a light treatment, and to cause the driver circuit to not drive a second region of light emitting devices, which correspond to a second sub-area having a high melanin content, such that no light treatment is provided to the second sub-area.

3. (previously presented) The system of claim 2 further including:

a first light sensing device which is included in the first region of light emitting devices, and detects light reflected from the first sub-area of a patient's tissue having a low melanin content, and generates a first signal corresponding to the reflection of light from the first sub-area, and wherein the first light sensing device is coupled to the controller, and the controller receives the first signal, and based on the first signal causes the driver circuit to drive the first region of light emitting devices to output the light treatment, which induces tanning in the first sub-area; and

a second light sensing device is included in the second region of light emitting devices, and detects light reflected from the second sub-area of a patient's tissue having a high melanin content, and generates a second signal corresponding to the reflection of light from the second sub-area, and wherein the second light sensing device is coupled to the controller, and the controller receives the second signal, and based on the second signal causes the driver circuit to not drive the second region of light emitting devices, such that no light treatment for inducing tanning is provided to the second sub-area.

4. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the controller operates to cause the driver circuit to drive a first region of light emitting devices which corresponds to a first sub-area of tissue having a first level of melanin content to output a first level of light treatment, and to cause the driver circuit to drive the second region of light emitting devices which corresponds to the second sub-area of tissue having a second level of melanin content to output a second level of light treatment.

5. (previously presented) The system of claim 4, further including:

a first light sensing device which is included in the first region of light emitting devices, and detects light reflected from the first sub-area of a patient's tissue having the first level of melanin content, and generates a first signal corresponding to the reflection of light from the first sub-area, and wherein the first light sensing devices is coupled to the controller, and the controller receives the first signal, and based on the first signal causes the driver circuit to drive the first region of light emitting devices to output the first level of light treatment; and

a second light sensing device is included in the second region of light emitting devices, and detects light reflected from the second sub-area of a patient's tissue having the second level of melanin content, and generates a second signal corresponding to the reflection of light from the second sub-area, and wherein the second light sensing device is coupled to the controller, and the controller receives the second signal, and based on the second signal causes the driver circuit to drive the second region of light emitting devices, to output the second level of light treatment.

6. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the light emitting devices are light emitting diodes.

7. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein at least one of the different regions of light emitting devices, includes only a single light emitting device.

8. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein at least one of the different regions of light emitting devices includes more than one light emitting device.

9. (currently amended) A method for treating an area of tissue, where the area of tissue includes a plurality of different sub-areas of tissue which have different characteristics:

providing a plurality of light emitting devices optically coupled with the area of tissue, wherein the light emitting devices are configured into different regions, where different sub-areas of tissue having different characteristics correspond to different regions of light emitting diodes;

sensing an amount of light reflected from each of the different sub-areas;

driving a first region of the plurality of light emitting devices to output a first light treatment to a first sub-area of tissue, wherein the first light treatment is determined based on [[an]] a first amount of light reflected from the first sub-area; and

driving a second region of the plurality of light emitting devices to output a second light treatment to a second sub-area of tissue, wherein the second light treatment is determined based on [[an]] a second amount of light reflected from the second sub-area of tissue.

10. (new) The method of claim 9, wherein the first light treatment induces a first amount of tanning in the first sub-area.
11. (new) The method of claim 10, wherein the second light treatment induces a second amount of tanning in the second sub-area.
12. (new) The method of claim 9, wherein the first light treatment includes light having a wavelength below 400 nm.
13. (new) The method of claim 9, wherein the first light treatment provides for an irradiance at least 100 mW/cm^2 for the first sub-area.
14. (new) The method of 9, wherein the first light treatment provides for a first level of irradiance for the first sub-area, and the second light treatment provides for a second level or irradiance for the second sub-area and the second level of irradiance is less than the first level or irradiance.
15. (new) The method of claim 9, further including driving the plurality of light emitting devices to induce tanning in the area of tissue, such that the tanning operates to provide for a more uniform distribution pigmentation in the area tissue, than was present in the area of tissue prior to the induced tanning.
16. (new) A method for treating an area of tissue, where the area of tissue includes a plurality of different sub-areas of tissue which have different amounts of pigmentation:
 - sensing an amount of light reflected from each of the plurality of different sub-areas; and
 - applying a light treatment to the area of tissue, based on the amount of light reflected from each of the plurality of different sub-areas, wherein the light treatment operates to reduce differences in the amount of pigmentation in different sub-areas of tissue.

17. (new) The method of claim 16, wherein the applying the light treatment includes:
generating a first amount of light to apply a first light treatment to a first sub-area of the area of tissue; and
generating a second amount of light to apply a second light treatment to a second sub-area of the area of tissue.
18. (new) The method of claim 16, wherein the applying the light treatment includes:
applying a first amount of light energy to a first group of sub-areas of tissue of the area of tissue, where the first group of sub-areas of tissue have less pigmentation, than a second group of sub-areas of tissue to which the first amount of light energy is not applied.
19. (new) The method of claim 18, wherein the first amount of light energy induces a first amount of tanning in the first group of sub-areas of tissue.
20. (new) The method of claim 18, wherein the first amount of light energy includes light having a wavelength below 400 nm.
21. (new) The method of claim 18, wherein the first amount of light energy provides for an irradiance at least 100 mW/cm^2 for the first group of sub-areas.